Applications for County Land Use Planning

To be proactive, we've learned:

- Accommodate individual planning processes
- Early participation is key

Different county approaches

- Kitsap County– Alternative Futures
- Pierce and Spokane County – Biodiversity Network (i.e., green space plan)
- Whatcom County – Landscape Approach and Alternative Futures
- Thurston County – Zoning and cluster development

Some of WDFW Technical Assistance Tools

- Ecoregional Assessments
- Local Habitat Assessments
- Priority Habitats and Species
- Guidance Documents

Ecoregional Assessments

How are they used?

- Guide tax incentive programs
- Inform land acquisition
- Inform regional policy bodies
- Focus conservation efforts

Local Habitat Assessment

What is it?

- Priorities at a more local scale
  - Bridges gap between regional priorities (EA) and local empirical data
- Provides landscape context
  - Ranks and compiles readily available data
- Rapid to deploy, easy to interpret and update

Methods

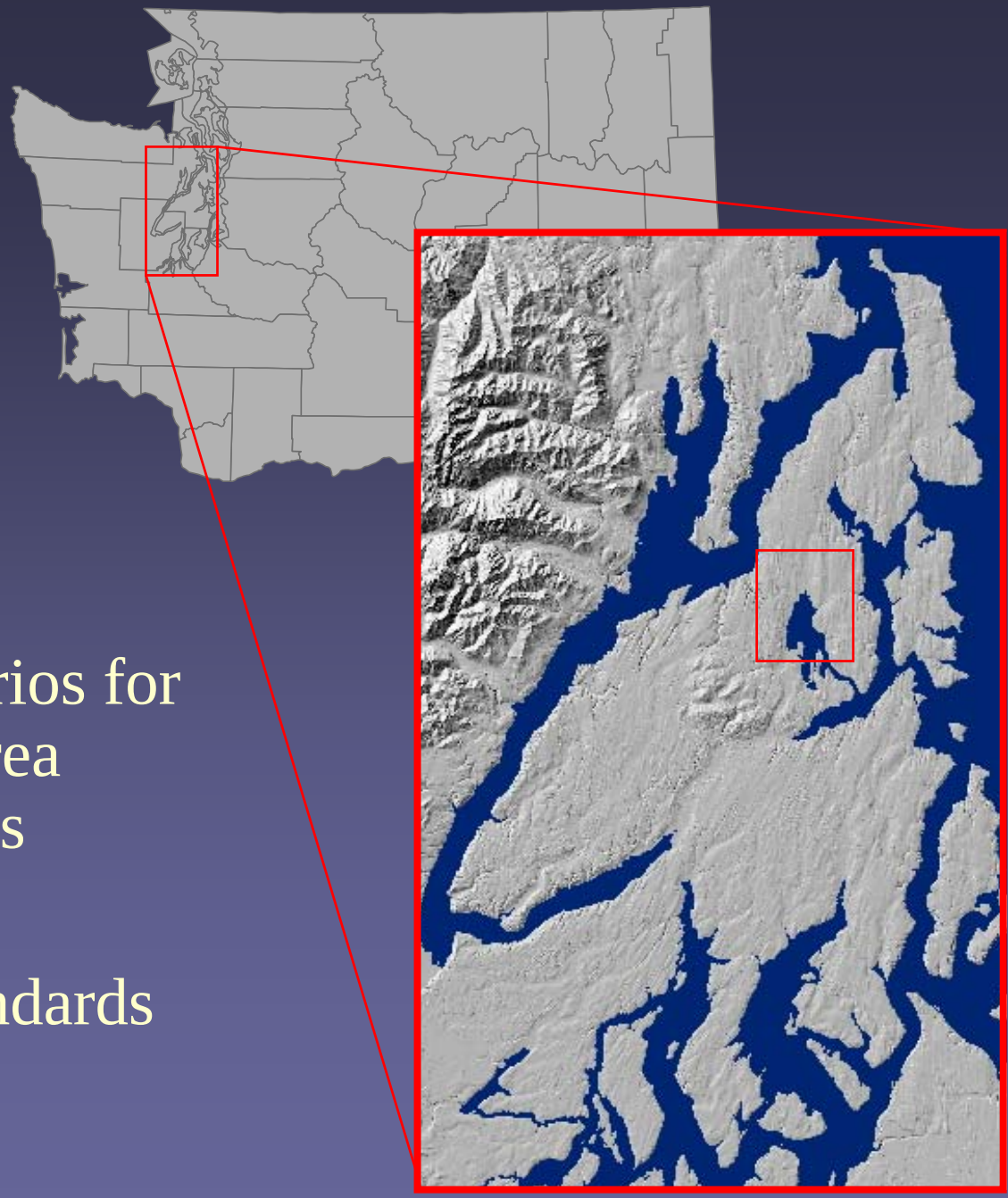
Local Habitat Assessment

How is it used?

- Urban Growth Area Boundaries
- Help inform Green Space or Open Space network placement
- Inform land use zoning/housing density
- Inform incentive programs and land acquisition

Methods

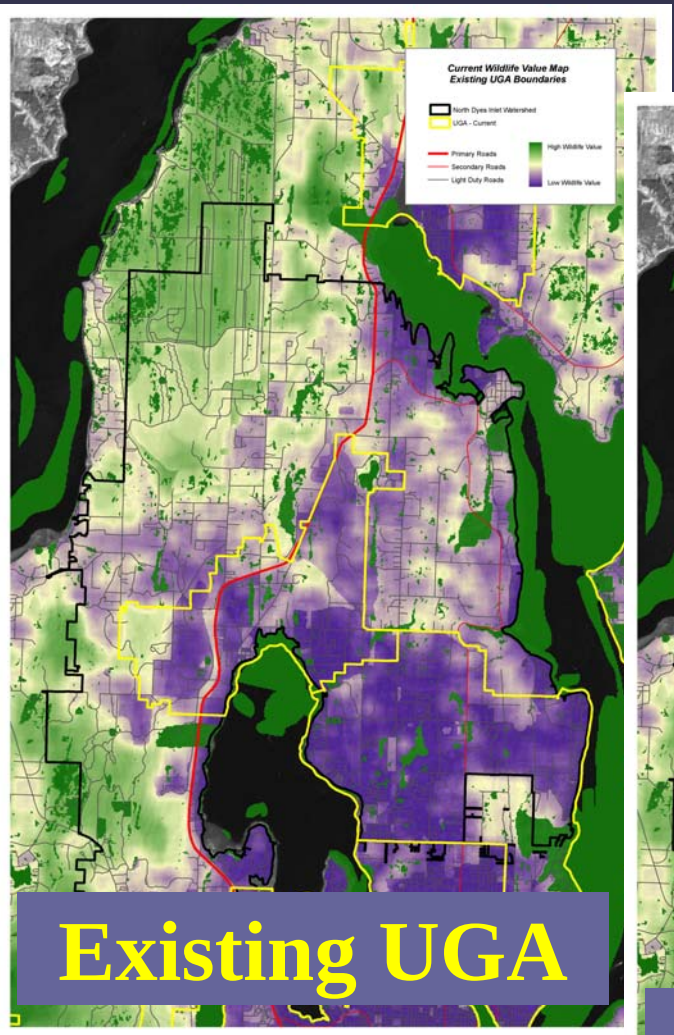
Silverdale Alternative Futures



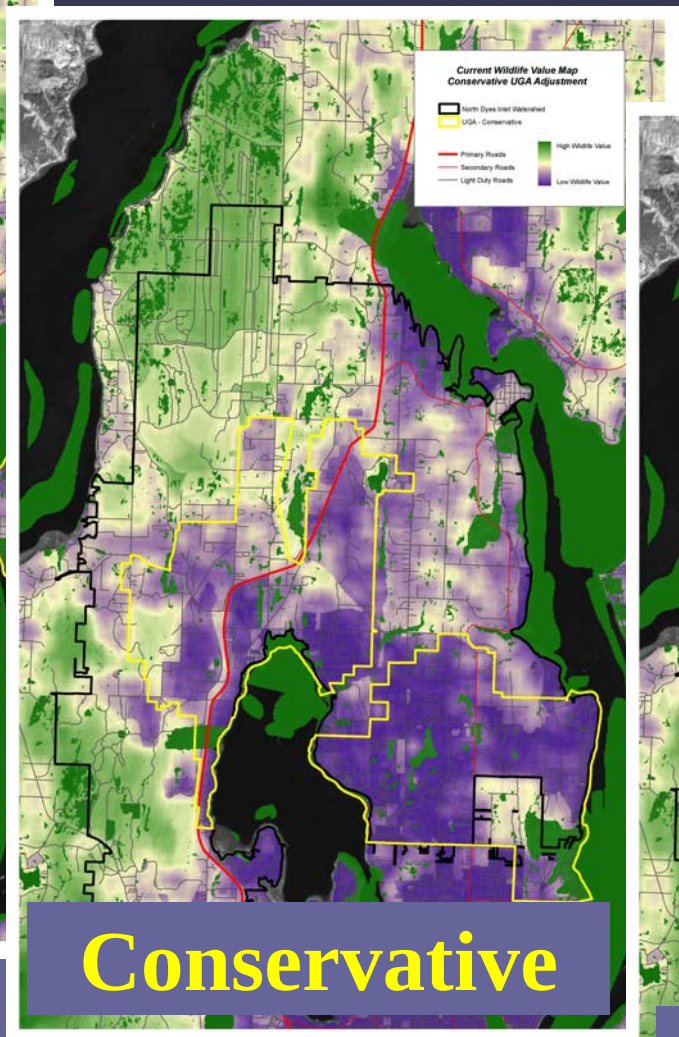
Planning Decisions

- Compare 3 scenarios for Urban Growth Area (UGA) boundaries
- Zoning densities
- Development standards

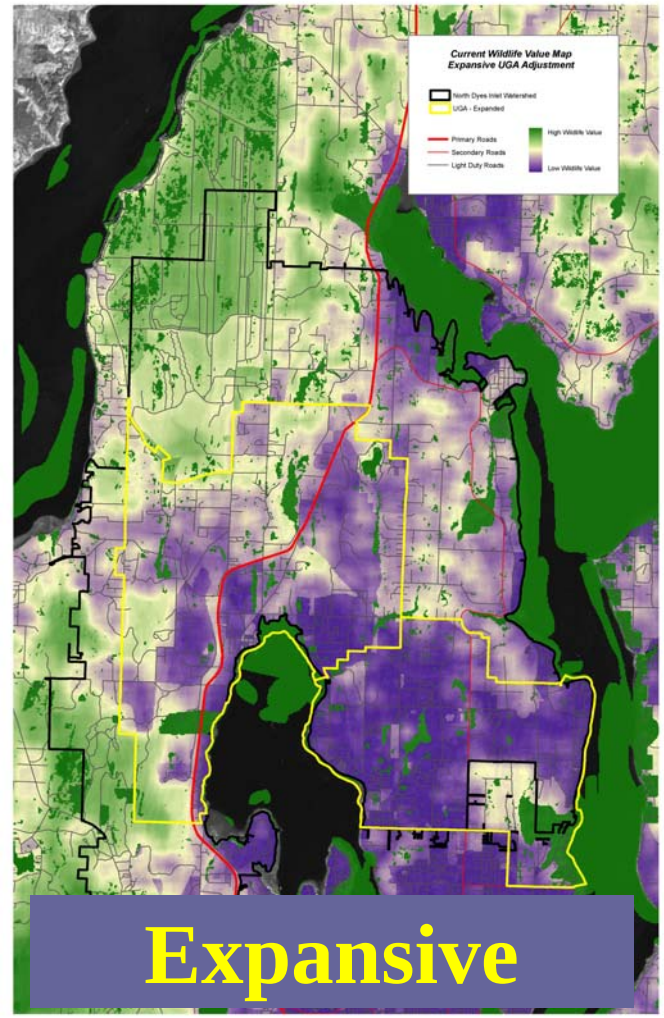
Evaluate 3 Different Scenarios



Existing UGA



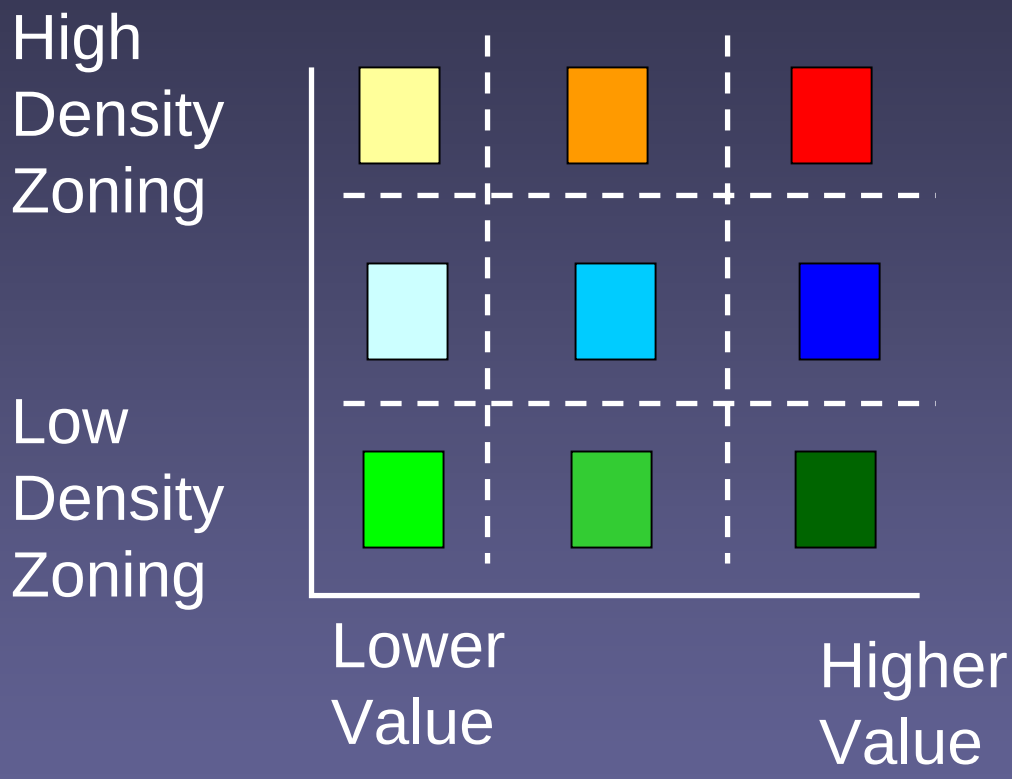
Conservative



Expansive

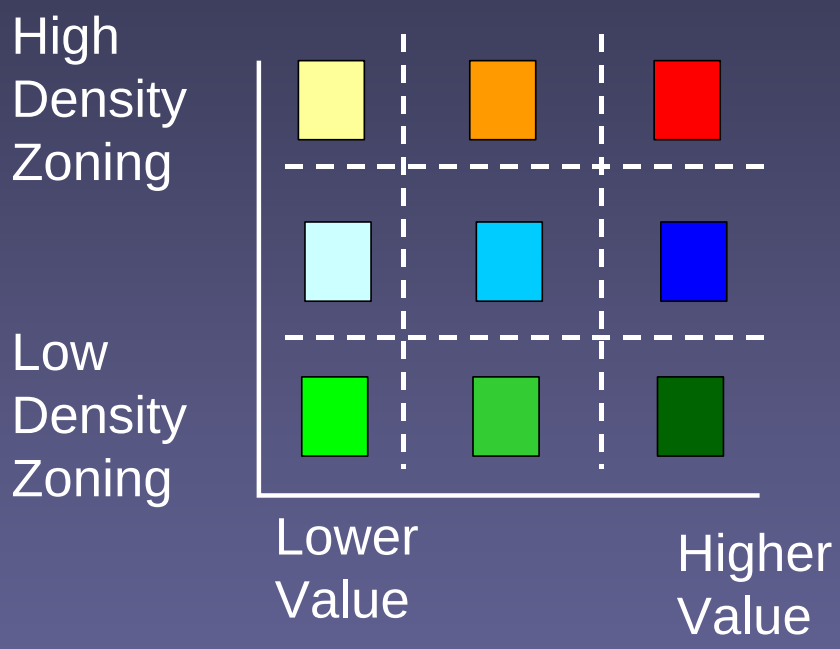
Evaluate Compatibility

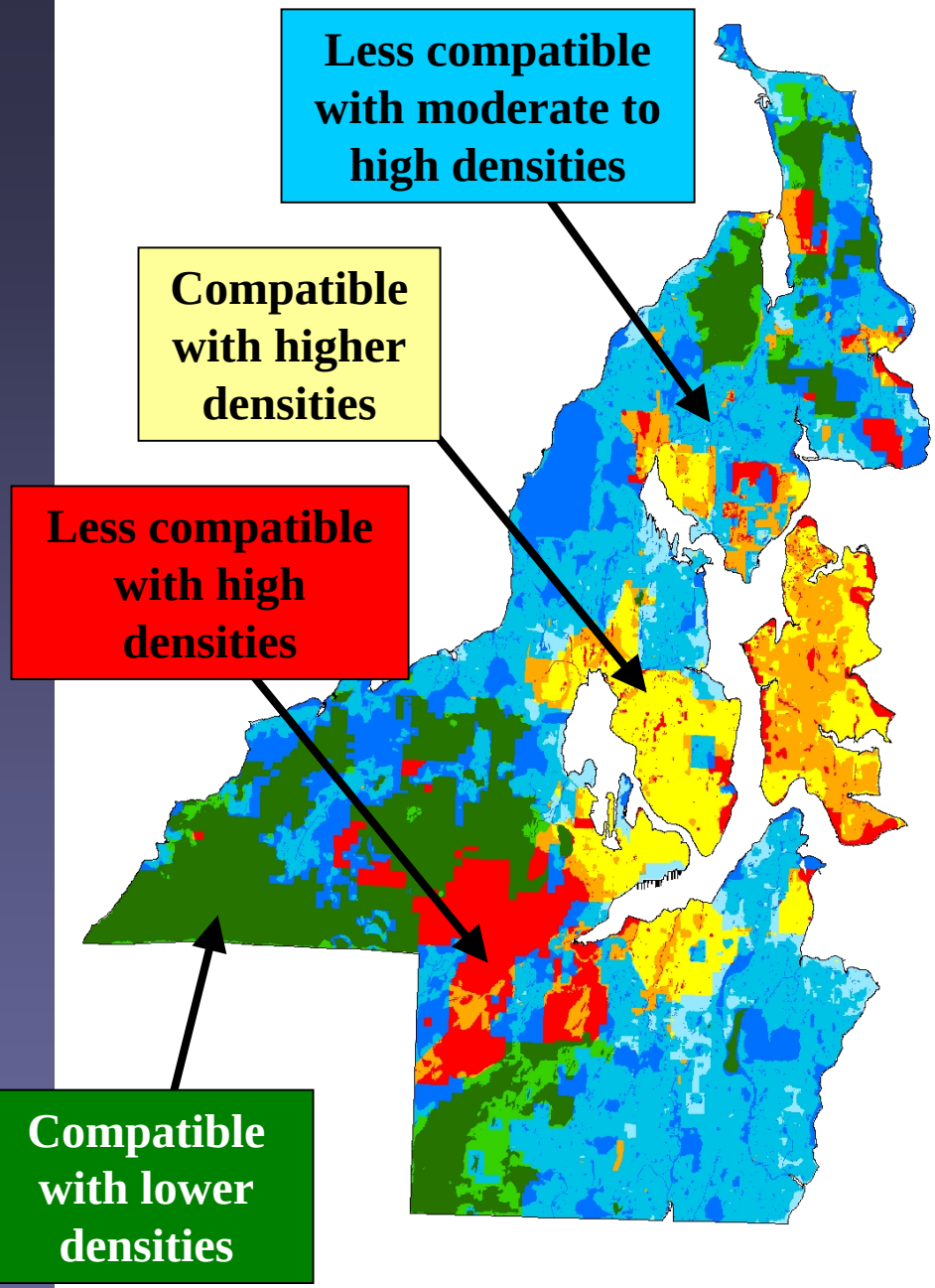
Planned Development from Comprehensive Plan



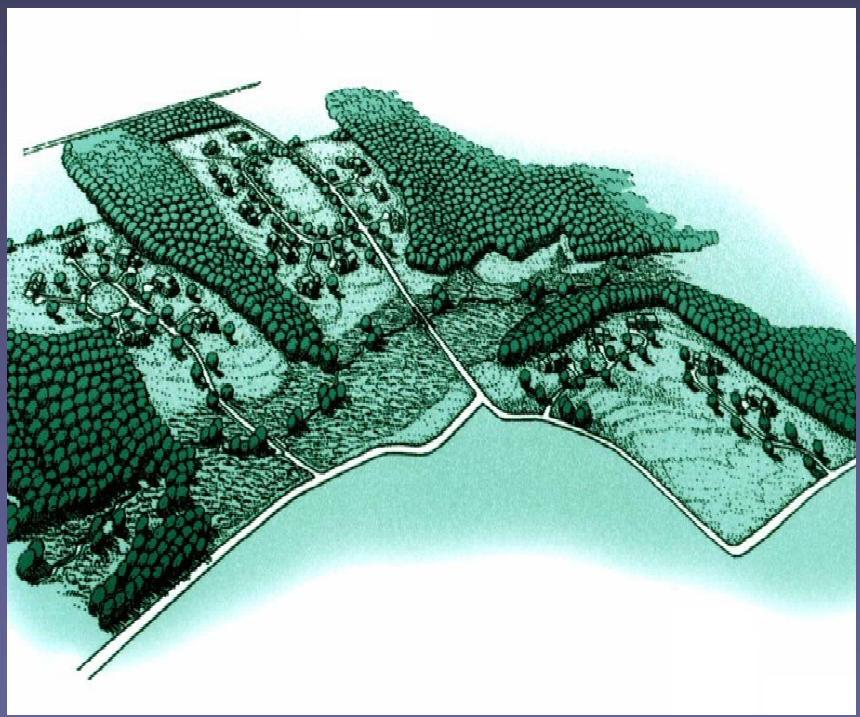
Local Habitat Assessment Layer

Evaluate Compatibility





Also Utilizing…



- Salmon habitat simulation models
  - RHABSIM
- Expert knowledge
  - Unique habitats/species
  - Local information/data

What are we learning?

- Local governments need technical assistance (not necessarily limited by data)
- Early participation key
- Coordination among agencies, scientists, governments, and private sector
- Build in incentives (cannot rely solely on regulations)